The HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to impact the lives of Chicagoans with a disproportionate burden on Black men who have sex with men (MSM), Latiné MSM, Black cisgender women, and Transgender Women. Aligning with our statewide goals under the Getting to Zero-Illinois (GTZ) plan, continuing to bridge the divide in awareness, access to health care and housing, among other factors is critical in ending the HIV epidemic in Chicago.

2022 HIV Incidence and Prevalence

New HIV cases are going down among all groups, but not evenly. While we saw a 0.5% increase when compared to 2021, there is a 21% decrease in new HIV diagnoses since 2017. Disproportionate impacts of HIV become evident when comparing the distribution of HIV transmission among various racial and ethnic groups with city demographic data.

HIV Transmissions

| City Demographics |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Black             | 47.1%           | Latine          | 23.3%           | White           | 20%             | Other           | 9.6%            |

High Impact Community Areas

- North Lawndale
- Washington Park
- South Shore
- West Englewood
- Great Grand Crossing

Listed community areas experienced more than 29.1 New HIV Cases per 100,000 residents.
PrEP or Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis can reduce the chances of HIV transmission from sex or injection drug use. When taken as prescribed, PrEP is highly effective at preventing HIV. Chicagoans are able to access PrEP4Illinois which is a medication assistance program for HIV-negative people who have risk factors for HIV and have a prescription for PrEP from a medical provider, among other resources.

In 2022, Cook County had 373 PrEP Users per 100,000 residents or 16,271 people in total. +2,402 More people across Cook County used PrEP in 2022 compared to the previous year.

Percentage of PrEP users, by Sex, 2022

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>94.5%</th>
<th>5.6%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
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HIV Treatment and Care

Medical advancements in HIV care now offer the possibility of healthy lives for people living with HIV through ongoing treatment. HIV treatment, besides being essential for individual health, serves as a preventative measure supported by public health findings known as Undetectable=Untransmittable or U=U. Individuals living with HIV who maintain an undetectable viral load for at least six months through treatment cannot transmit the virus through sexual activity also known as maintaining viral suppression. For people newly diagnosed, an important measure is looking at the percentage of the population that are connected or linked to HIV care within one month of receiving their diagnosis.

17% of new HIV diagnoses are later diagnosed with stage 3 HIV (AIDS) within the same year but Black Chicagoans account for nearly half of late-HIV diagnoses.

Information and Resources

- AFC | aidschicago.org
- HIV Hub | hivhub.org
- GTZ-IL | gtzillinois.hiv
- HIV.Gov | hiv.gov

HIV in Chicago: Key Facts and Statistics


